



**Australian
Childhood
Foundation**

Annual Report

for the financial year
ended 30 June 2021

childhood.org.au

ACN: 057 044 514

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Take Action Be a Force for Childhood

Australian Childhood Foundation relies on the support of the community to enable us to help children heal from the devastating impact of violence and abuse.

You can help transform the lives of children who have suffered severe trauma. You can enable the Foundation to continue to grow our reach and the number of children we can support across Australia. Your gift and support can ensure we can help to stop the violence against children, before it happens, by donating today at www.childhood.org.au or by calling **1300 381 581**.

The Foundation is continuously seeking to establish strategic partnerships to contribute in meaningful ways and support the recovery of children traumatised by violence and abuse. Partnering with us can motivate and inspire staff, build brand awareness for organisations and engage the community.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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A Message from the CEO



It has been an incredible year. The changes to our lives arising from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has affected children and young people in so many ways. Unfortunately, it has been even harder for children and young people who have experienced trauma arising from abuse and violation. The constant uncertainty and unpredictability of changing restrictions has made the world feel less safe for them. They have needed and continue to need more intensive support. They have been more distressed.

That is why we have adapted our approach to resourcing a focus on safety and permanency. It has been complicated work, often done online. It has meant more sensitive exchanges with carers and parents. It has meant that a greater emphasis on identifying and evaluating the risks of further abuse with children and young people in their environments. Even with all of these challenges, together with all the important people to these children, we have achieved some amazing outcomes.

You will read about all of our activities in this report. We have continued to grow and expand our service delivery. Our staff have worked with the dedication and passion that they are so well known for. The Board have been instrumental in ensuring that we continue to focus on what is important to children and young people.

Our financial position has also become more sustainable through our deliberate efforts and the wonderful commitment of all of our individual and corporate donors, our philanthropic supporters, and governments across the country. Increasing our reserves has meant that we have a stronger base to be able to navigate what will undoubtedly be some rocky times ahead.

Of all the stories of this last financial year. One stands out as a message of hope for how we should respond to all our children.

For a few days in June 2020, a remarkable story unfolded. A young boy with autism went missing in the Victorian bush. The state held its collective breath for three days before there was good news.

The volunteers and police who found William Callaghan put themselves into his shoes to do it. They knew that he was more vulnerable – and special. He had autism. He liked to run. He liked feta cheese. He liked the smell of bacon and onion on the BBQ. He liked peanut butter. He loved Thomas the Tank. The volunteers were told to approach him slowly and offer him food first. They were told to be quiet and not startle him. They adapted their normal way of looking for a missing person to accommodate William's special needs.

The community bent towards him. They were singing to him. Thomas The Tank music played through the forest calling him home.

They held out a hand to reach him and found him. They were wonderful and generous and made a huge difference for that one young boy and his family.

However, there are plenty of children that are just as vulnerable in different ways that we leave to fend for themselves. They are the children who are forced to live with threat and violence every day at home.

Their vulnerability is not so visible. But it is still there. Their trauma runs deep. It has eaten away at their self-confidence. It has stopped them trusting people. Their violation is always there. It runs loose in their minds. They are worried and scared. They feel alone. They feel like somehow the violence was their fault.

These vulnerable kids also need our help. They need us to bend towards them and make them feel like we will turn out in the hundreds to look for them and take care of them.

They need us to sing their favourite music so that they feel safe to receive help. They need us to accept them for who they are, understanding their vulnerabilities are not their fault and that we need to change how and what we do so that we don't unwittingly frighten them into running again.

They need us to open our homes and take them in.

We all cried when William was found. It was a relief. A young boy who had been in danger had been saved. We made it as easy as possible for him to find his way out. We coaxed him back out of danger.

It is exactly what traumatised children need too. They need a community that is open to finding them and bringing them back to us so that they are safe.

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO



Program Spotlight: OurSPACE Report NSW

OurSPACE is a program originally developed for the New South Wales landscape. Funded in October 2019, OurSPACE started receiving referrals in December 2019 and continues as a successful and active program to this day. It is a specialist trauma therapeutic service that works to specifically achieve stability with some of the most vulnerable children and young people in state care. The program recognises that placement stability and relationship permanence are the most significant factors that lead to positive developmental, education and health outcomes for children and young people in care.

In FY20-21, we released a report to summarise the outcomes achieved so far for children and young people who have been referred to OurSPACE. The report also offers an analysis of the impact that the program has had in relation to the child protection and out-of-home care systems in NSW.

The findings of the report demonstrated that the OurSPACE program produces tangible and lasting results for children, young people, and their carers. Children who had experienced many placements and years of threat and deprivation before they became involved with OurSPACE were almost always supported to achieve placement stability and emerging signs of relationship permanence. In 2021, the program was refunded for a further three years.

1700
total clients

84%

decrease in trauma based behavioural presentation indicated on referral

51%

increase in school attendance



78%

reduction in ROSH (risk of significant harm)



62%

of whom were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

69%

reduction in Youth Justice involvement



1472

placements stabilised



Program Spotlight: ChildSPACE Victoria

After the horrific summer of 2019-2020, Australian Childhood Foundation was granted \$500,000 in funding from USA based philanthropic organisation, Direct Relief, to work with children, young people and families in a bushfire effected community in north-east Victoria.

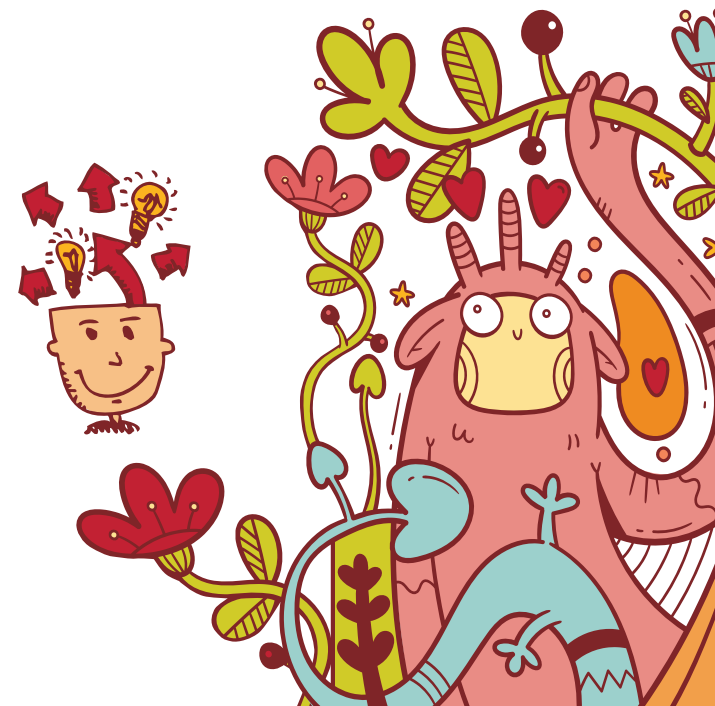
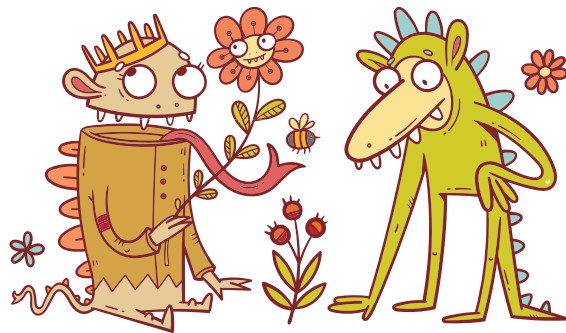
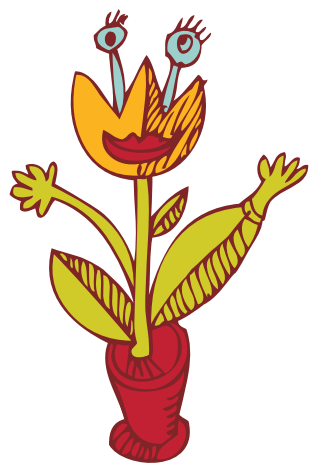


The **ChildSPACE program**, a trauma-informed community-building recovery program for children and young people affected by bushfires, aims to ensure that there is a sustained focus on supporting the social and emotional wellbeing needs of children and young people living in these areas. While adults in the community were understandably focussed on rebuilding homes, schools and businesses, children's trauma was a secondary concern. By reaching out within this community, Australian Childhood Foundation has been able to provide the support children and young people need, and ensure families were supported to heal together.

We developed the program in partnership with Professor Lisa Gibbs (Director of the Child Health and Community Wellbeing Program in the Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne and Lead of Community Resilience in the Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety), Brett Ellis (Disaster Recovery expert with direct experience in rebuilding communities in the region and nationally).

Working alongside communities to resource the formal and informal networks around children and young people who have suffered bushfire related trauma, our primary goal is to strengthen the knowledge, confidence, and commitment of community members to notice, care and support children and young people and their families as they navigate the recovery process, paying particular attention to the consequences of trauma on children over time.

Halfway through the program, in early 2021, the ChildSPACE team was involved in a community day, celebrating all the babies born in the previous year. Thank you to our corporate partner Dyson, for their support of this event by donating products for new parents engaging with the program.



Program Spotlight:

Naala Djookan Healing Centre, Western Australia

Meaning 'Our Sisters' in Nyoongar, the Naala Djookan Healing Centre brings together eleven organisations with one vision, to provide a culturally rich and strong community that is safe and free from violence. Australian Childhood Foundation employs the Integrated Practice Lead and Senior Counsellor positions which are responsible for providing evidence-based, culturally strong, trauma-informed practice direction, as well as support and supervision for the staff at Naala Djookan and trauma-responsive individual and group counselling for children and mothers who have experienced family violence.

Excellent outcomes for the community have been achieved in the first six months of operation of Naala Djookan Healing Centre from December 2020 to June 2021. The Centre has delivered 18 different health and wellbeing programs, totalling 69 workshops with 315 participants. Additionally, 135 clients have accessed family and domestic violence support services.



Our Advocacy

Abused children not believed

ONE in three people do not believe children who say they are being abused, a study has found.

One in four people are not sure they could recognise child abuse if they encountered it, research commissioned by the Australian Childhood Foundation.

The report, based on nationally representative surveys of 1009 adults, concludes that child abuse remains unseen and largely ignored.

Many respondents placed child abuse lower on a list of concerns than transport issues. Despite

Anti-violence campaigns, Rosie Batty labelled the findings shocking and disappointing. "It dismays me to see nothing has changed in years," she said.

Australian Childhood Foundation CEO

10 PER CENT
Rise in calls to the SA Child and Mental Health Service line in May and June compared to last year.

48,000
South Australians aged 15-24 years employed full-time, September 2020. Was 52,500 in September 2019.

12.2 PER CENT
Unemployment rate for SA, 15-24-year-olds, September. Compared to 6.7 per cent for all people 15. (Original rates, not seasonally adjusted)

66%
of South Australians going without food at least once a week, aged 18 to 25.

Angus Clarke
Wants to study psychology. It's one of the most important jobs that you can have with the world.

Nevie Peart
Will study biodiversity and conservation. There's going to be a lot more jobs open up in sustainability and the world.

Emilia McDonald
Wants to study creative arts. With COVID-19, I know a lot of artists have lost jobs. But I'm passionate about it.

JOE TUCCI

If children come first, prove it

MAGINE Marvel Stadium at full capacity. That's how many children live in out-of-home care.

Our kids' trauma has to stop: it's up to us

concerns with roads and footpaths. Our children need more than that, much more.

The Morrison government is

JOE TUCCI

MAGINE Marvel Stadium at full capacity. That's how many children live in out-of-home care.

Our kids' mental health relies on adults caring



ever before that relationships make all the difference to the way we feel about ourselves and our world.

But we still see mental health only through an adult lens. We rarely pause to consider how children know and experience mental health. B

themselves that they stop showing any feeling at all. They bottle it up. They keep adults at a distance. And then when they can't contain it any longer, they have to release it.

They hurt themselves with cigarette lighters or razor blades. They

SO MANY KIDS NEED RESCUING

quiet and not startle him. They adapted their normal way of looking for a missing person to accommodate Williams' needs. The co... to fight, ready to protect themselves from danger in any way they can. They find it hard to...

Batty backs kids ministry

ANTI-VIOLENCE advocate Rosie Batty has backed calls for a dedicated federal minister for children amid concerns kids' welfare is being forgotten.

The Australian Childhood Foundation is lobbying Prime Minister Scott Morrison

ADOPT OUT ABUSED KIDS

I COULD not agree more with Australian Childhood Foundation chief executive Joe Tucci and the views he expressed in his opinion piece (C-M, Sep 11).

I think history will judge us a lot more harshly in our response to the

SOURCE: Herald Sun: 11th September 2020; 3rd December 2020; 29th December 2020; 10th September 2021. Adelaide Advertiser: 11th September 2020. Courier Mail: 11th September 2020; 12th September 2020. Sunday Mail Adelaide: 18th October 2020.

Therapeutic Services: New South Wales

Therapeutic Services NSW: OurSPACE Program and Bringing Up Great Kids: Parenting After Family Violence NSW

In FY20-21, OurSPACE provided support to over 1600 Children Young People and their care networks, over half of whom identified as Aboriginal. Our team consists of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Therapeutic Specialists who provide outreach therapeutic support to some of the most vulnerable children and young people who live in out-of-home care in NSW. The team provides specialist trauma sensitive approaches that are culturally safe and offer continuity in their therapeutic relationships.

>75%

of all children and young people engaged with the program achieved stability in their placements, increased their school engagement and felt more connected to their carers.

Feedback:

Carer feedback: “Everyone else tells me what I am doing wrong or tells me what I should be doing, but you listen to me, and you hear what is happening and understand, which means I feel less stressed and then the whole house is less stressed”.

Case Worker feedback: “We had previously made a referral to another service, now we know that what OurSPACE do is different. You know about trauma, and it's the little things you do that I've seen have made the big differences.”

“I have never officially thanked you for all the support you are providing to Billy*. Your work had an important and meaningful impact on Billy's overall mental health and wellbeing. You have built a trusting and strong relationship with Billy and taught him ways to recognise and name his emotions. Your contribution in his life is priceless and I would like to express my gratitude for all the work you do.”

As a professional I find you devoted and passionate about helping vulnerable children. Your creative and 'outside-of-the-box' thinking; you match your work strategies to children and carers needs. Working with you is a true pleasure and I hope we can continue to support Billy* together. Thank you.”



Therapeutic Services: Northern Territory

Therapeutic Services NT

Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs, and various surrounding remote NT communities

The Northern Territory Therapeutic Services team provide specialist services to children and young people who are referred by Territory Families, Housing and Community. The services we provide include assessment, therapeutic support for children and young people, therapeutic parenting support, and therapeutic educator programs across most regions of the Northern Territory. This year, the prominence of our Harmful Sexual Behaviour Assessments and Parenting Capacity Assessments have grown, with more interest from organisations. The therapies we have been providing are developmentally aware, culturally sensitive, and trauma-informed; this includes play therapy, sand tray therapy and other expressive and verbal-based therapies.

Our client range for these services is diverse; from as young as two-years-old up to young people who have just turned 18. In the Territory, there is no other service provided by an NGO, government agency or private practice that provides therapy to children under five-years-old other than Australian Childhood Foundation. Additionally, we are the only service provider currently offering support for survivors of sexual assault or treatment for harmful sexual behaviour for children under the age of five.

The feedback provided by children, young people and families who access our service has noted that they have never received a holistic service like the kind we provide.

Therapeutic Services NT: Strong Ways

Darwin, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Tennant Creek

The team working on the Strong Ways program works with children and young people aged from eight to 17 years, and their families. We work with 57 young people across the Northern Territory at any given time. The program is an alternative sentencing and youth diversion program that provides a holistic understanding of young people's needs and complexity. Australian Childhood Foundation provides assessment, case management and therapeutic intervention for this often hard to engage and complex group of clients.

There are many success stories within the Strong Ways program. Often these might seem like small successes but for the children and young people we work with, the impact is great. Recently, the team worked with a boy in grade six who was supported to go back to school for two hours a day after not attending at all, all year. Similarly, the team worked with a young man who had not engaged with any services for years who is now in employed in the trade industry. These successes take months and months of creative and assertive outreach, working in a culturally safe and engaging manner; never giving up and continuing to show up for children, young people and their families, no matter what.



A family who worked with our team stated, “Before Australian Childhood Foundation was involved with our family, we had to keep stamping our feet just so we felt like we were heard, now we still are stamping out feet, but not on our own, the more feet stamping, the better the outcomes.”

Therapeutic Services: Western Australia

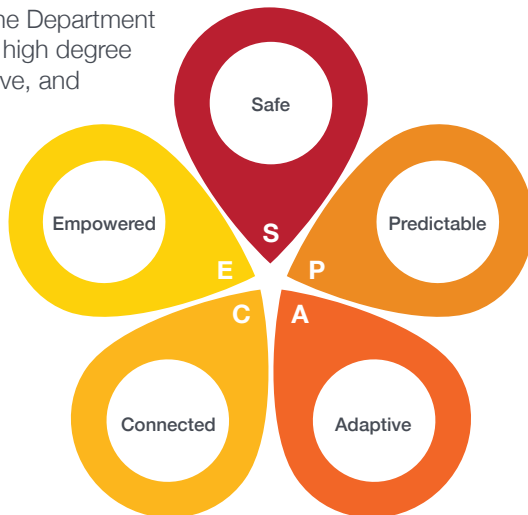
Therapeutic Services WA: OurSPACE WA, Children's Spirit Program

WA Statewide, Mirrabooka and surrounds, West Kimberley

OurSPACE WA is a pilot initiative delivered by Australian Childhood Foundation to provide state-wide therapeutic consultation, support and counselling services for foster and family kinship carers. Originally a six-month pilot program which commenced in September 2020, as part of the WA Government's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, it is expected to continue into 2022 given the supportive impact for children, young people, and their families.

Foster and family carers also reported feeling more confident to communicate with the Department around theirs and their children's needs. When carers also reported feeling isolated in their role and uncomfortable when meeting with multiple professionals around their children's needs, they appreciated having the support of OurSPACE to be with them to help them be heard.

Similarly, the staff from the Department of Communities noted a high degree of knowledgeable, creative, and professional support by Australian Childhood Foundation team.



Feedback:

Foster and family carers report feeling more confident to address emotional and behavioural issues and children's developmental needs and experiencing less stress.

"I feel less stressed, more educated, stronger and empowered. Meeting with you in a safe space to talk and help piece things together, I learn. You remind me of my grandson's trauma and put his behaviour in context."

Feedback:

"I found that Australian Childhood Foundation were very supportive of our carer and was able to connect with them to ensure that they felt heard and empowered, supporting us to have hard discussions with carers for children in care where they feel unheard by us".

The Children's Spirit program provides intensive support to families at risk of their children coming into care, or in the case where children have been removed from the care of their parents, support to work toward reunification. The program has also provided support to grandparents, uncles and aunties in building their capacity to maintain and stabilise their family care arrangements. Centacare Kimberley and its consortium partners, Australian Childhood Foundation and Derby Aboriginal Health Services (DAHS) continue to deliver these services for Aboriginal families across the West Kimberley.

During a recent trip to the West Kimberley, Minister Simone McGurk, who is the state minister for Child Protection, Women's Interests, Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence and Community Services requested to meet with family carers who have been supported by the Children's Spirit program. The lunch meeting was a great opportunity for our family carers to share with the Minister some of their concerns and challenges as family carers, with our support. Many of the carers shared stories of their own experiences of separation, loss and disconnection having either directly been impacted by the stolen generation, or still dealing with the effects of family members who had been removed as children.

Therapeutic Services: ACT

Therapeutic Services ACT: Therapeutic Services ACT & ACT Together

Therapeutic Services in Canberra are part of ACT Together (ACTT), a consortium of three large agencies, including Barnardos, Oz Child and Australian Childhood Foundation. ACTT was established in 2016 as a result of a significant child protection reform informed by the ACT Government's **Step Up for Our Kids Strategy**, which aims to create a trauma-responsive and culturally strong out-of-home care system for all children in care.

As the sole provider of out of home care services in the ACT, in the last financial year, ACTT supported 762 children and young people in total – 563 lived in home-based care. Of the children and young people involved, 126 were granted permanency through Enduring Parental Responsibility order or adoption, and 65 were cared for either in therapeutic residential care or supported in less-intensive placement options, such as semi-independent, lead tenant and post-care programs.

Australian Childhood Foundation Therapeutic Services Team continues to be the leader and advocate of trauma-responsive practice in ACTT. In FY20-21, the Therapeutic Services Team provided therapeutic support and interventions to 125 children and young people, their carers and professional care teams. Our work included intensive support of foster and kinship carers in creating safe, healing home environments, with loving and nurturing relationships at their core. We have also provided therapy to children and young people as part of their healing from trauma. The positive impact of our work on the lives of children and young people is reflected in many areas of their lives, including increased safety and trust in relationships, rediscovering the joy and fun of childhood, and a stronger connection with their culture and community.

In addition, the team has worked closely with Barnardos and Oz Child case management teams, and all staff in therapeutic residential care programs. Each team has an allocated therapeutic specialist from Australian Childhood Foundation who guides and supports their work through facilitation of reflective practice, therapeutic consultations, leadership of care teams and clinical meetings, and ongoing professional development and training.

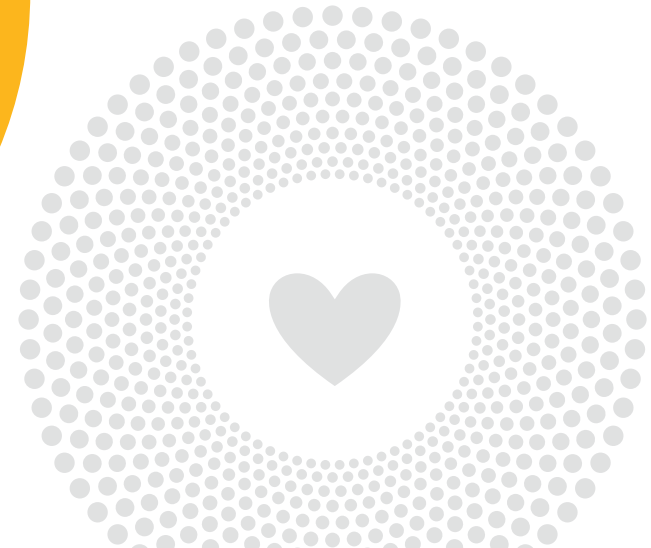


Feedback:

"I have worked with our Australian Childhood Foundation Therapeutic Specialist from ACT Together for over two years now. During this time, I have noticed a significant difference in my capabilities as a carer and the care that I provide for my two nieces. Our relationships are stronger, and the girls have come so far with her ongoing support. As a single carer I find myself becoming overwhelmed at times and having my Therapeutic Specialist there to offer her assistance with new ways to look at situations has developed my confidence within myself and that as a parent."



"With the support of his Therapeutic Specialist, Braxton* has been successful in learning new ways to manage his strong feelings at home and school. Our Therapeutic Specialist has worked closely with Braxton's residential carer team to support them in encouraging him to voice his frustrations, comfort him and offer ways to help him, such as go for walks, play board games, read with him, or offer him his favourite food or drink. As a result, Braxton is now much more able to access his safe adults for help."



Therapeutic Services: ACT

Case study:

Casey* is a 7-year-old girl who was placed in foster care after her family could no longer care for her. An Australian Childhood Foundation Therapeutic Specialist has worked systemically with Casey's care team and network to support her development and healing from trauma. Also working intensively with Casey's new foster parents to help them understand Casey's behaviours as expressions of her traumatic experiences, our Therapeutic Specialist is supporting the family to be curious about the meaning of Casey's behaviour and to learn to respond to her with empathy and consistency. They were also supported in their commitment to strengthening Casey's relationship with her birth family.

Direct therapeutic work with Casey has assisted her to develop skills around emotional regulation and make sense of why she can no longer live with family. Casey is now attending full-time school in a mainstream class for the first time in her young life. She is settled and calm living with her foster family and has regular contact with extended birth family. Casey has recently said to her foster parents that she knows that they love her. This true, felt sense of being valued and cared about is positively reflected in many aspects of her life.



Therapeutic Services: Tasmania



Therapeutic Services Tasmania

Children across Tasmania have been offered specialist counselling through the Family Violence Counselling program this year. This specialist support was offered to children living in out-of-home care and their important adults, providing holistic care and support for this vulnerable population.

The Bringing up Great Kids after Family Violence and Popping Bubbles groups were again offered this year to families on the waiting list for Family Violence Counselling to ensure they were able to be engaged with a service during the time they were waiting for one-to-one support. These programs saw parents and carers engage in therapeutic group settings, learning together about the impacts of trauma associated with family violence for their children and ensured the experiences of children and young people were more a focus for parents and carers.

Children living in out-of-home care and residential care placements were supported through reviews of their placements by the team. The Therapeutic Services team across Tasmania supported children and young people with complex needs who were living in out-of-home care through intensive support packages and supported foster carers and out-of-home care agency staff through trauma-informed training.

Early in 2021, the team also contributed with thought leadership in the family law sector through a presentation at the Family Law Pathways Conference, providing contextualised and contemporary evidence-based knowledge and support.

Through the work done by the Therapeutic Services team in Tasmania, children, young people and their important adults were supported across Tasmania to promote healing and recovery from the impacts of trauma. We helped children feel safer in their relationships with their parents and caregivers, helped them learn and play, and helped children find their voice.

“

The carer of a young person shared their feedback about the work:

“She appears more comfortable to ask me for help in general. Her being more involved in processes is making a stronger bond between us. She is seeking more affection and growing in confidence around asking for support. She responds to the support by saying: ‘you’re the best’.”

”

Therapeutic Services: Victoria

Child Trauma Service – Eastern Region of Metropolitan Melbourne

The Child Trauma Service in Victoria has seen a year of challenges, as have the children, young people, and families we support. Situated in the eastern region of metropolitan Melbourne, the team of dedicated counsellors have pivoted to working online, developing adaptive and creative ways to continue trauma counselling and support to children, young people, parents, and their care systems.

Our multidisciplinary team has worked closely together to offer opportunities for connection, repair and healing for children and young people who have experienced sexual abuse, family violence or engaged in harmful sexual behaviour. Through the challenges of restrictions, lockdowns, and complexity that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought, the team have maintained connection and support to the many children and families accessing the service.

Children and young people we work with have shown their deep resilience and strength in adapting between online and in-person counselling and schooling. Whilst most children and young people engaged well online there was delight in returning to the clinic in Mitcham in late 2020. A child who visited the Mitcham office for a session excitedly led the way to the kitchen to prepare their drink of hot chocolate and choose a packet of biscuits, before leading their counsellor outside for a game of table tennis. A small snack and a game brought so much delight and was missed when sessions were online.

We have continued to hear themes of 'being heard', 'listened to' and 'held in mind' by children and their families when they provided feedback about the service and the work with their counsellors.

The team responded to over 500 enquiries to the program throughout the past year and saw an increase of 62% in referrals for children and young people who engaged in harmful sexual behaviour. Parents predominantly requested referrals for their own children to the program, alongside Child Protection and other community organisations as strong referrers. The introduction of a new role, the Initial Response Practitioner has assisted the service in responding to numerous requests for secondary consultations to other services when supporting children and young people who have experienced trauma.

We also delivered a Bringing Up Great Kids parenting program online and welcomed parents and carers from across the eastern region. The online delivery was a great opportunity to reach many parents and carers who may not have been able to attend in-person, given the increasing demands of parenting and schooling their children.



Therapeutic Services: Victoria

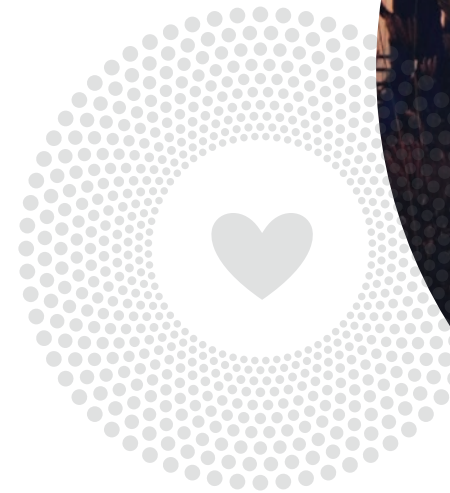
Our Work with Young People

How we think about, work with and support others to understand and respond to young people, particularly those who have experienced trauma, has always been a strong focus for us here at Australian Childhood Foundation. This work requires sensitivity, flexibility, curiosity, creativity, an ability to hold and navigate complex stories and environments, a willingness to be open to and learn from what young people are teaching us, and a capacity to make space for hope and possibility. The Victorian Therapeutic Services program has a long history of working with young people who engage in harmful sexual behaviours. There has been much work done to support them, the important adults in their world and their communities to understand the origin and function of their behaviours, within the context of a developmental lens, alongside supporting them to learn healthier ways to regulate and be in relationship.

In the last year, we have received funding in a number of programs to work with young people using violence in the home. These adolescents are often understood through an adult perpetrator lens, with families and systems struggling to hold developmental and trauma frames when trying to make sense of their functioning. We are working to support these young people to feel safe in themselves and in relationships with others, and to journey alongside the important people in their world in ways that encourage connection, understanding, meaning making and safety. This work is also offering us yet another opportunity to engage the broader system in considering how we best conceptualise and work with these young people who have themselves – more often than not – experienced significant trauma.

Alongside this, many of the children who have been cared for in long-term out-of-home care placements within our therapeutic care programs are now entering their adolescent years; this journey posing challenges for them as they navigate their growing senses of identity and efficacy, for their carers who need to re-orient how they care for and connect with their growing children, and for the system which has to find ways to tolerate risk often related to developmental needs and pathways. This has required us to think about and develop specialised training for carers to make sense of the confusing time that is adolescence, offer spaces for young people to have their voices heard, and provide reflective opportunities for practitioners, so that they can continue to hold families and systems through what is often a bumpy ride.

This complex yet critical work is best done in partnership, and we feel very grateful to be working alongside a range of agencies in both the out-of-home care space, as well as the family violence sector, to deliver services across Victoria.



Therapeutic Services: Victoria

Therapeutic Residential Care – Wodonga

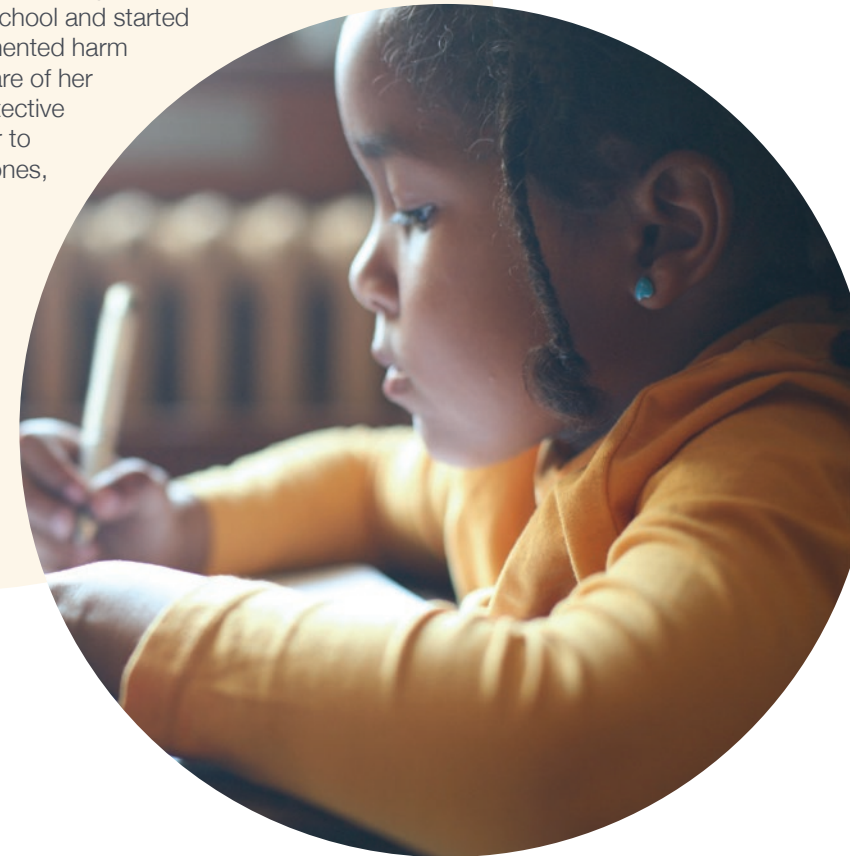
In our partnership with Junction Services in Wodonga, we support two Therapeutic Residential Care (TRC) homes, each with four young people living in each home. Young people entering therapeutic residential care have had a significant history of trauma and disrupted attachment. They come with such a high level of mistrust in adults to take care of them and keep them safe. The pain from the grief and trauma they have experienced is overwhelming and heartbreaking.

We acknowledge living with family or in home-based care placements are more suitable for children, however in an out-of-home care system lacking the resources to meet the needs of all the children requiring care, TRC is so much more than a last resort.

It takes a team of committed passionate carers, therapeutic practitioners, intensive case management services and a coordinated care team to provide the stability and safety these children crave. Strong partnerships and collaborative practice is crucial to providing safety and stability for some of our most at-risk and vulnerable young people in our community. In a crisis-driven reactive system, we advocate strongly to ensure young peoples' voices are heard and their needs understood. These young people may be some of the most challenging and at-risk to care for, though they are also the ones that require our time, care and compassion the most.

How do we know it works?

Maria* lived in TRC for over two years, which was a significant period of stability and safety for her. Her sister also lived with her in the TRC for 14 months. Like most sisters, they shared an interplay of moments involving laughter, friendliness, and irritation. Their bond was strengthened with the help of carers who supported them with conflict resolution and provided the siblings with opportunities for fun and connection. During Maria's time in TRC, she regularly engaged in school and started further studies. Despite the documented harm that she had experienced in the care of her parents, she remained fiercely protective of her family. Carers supported her to remain connected with her loved ones, while also teaching her valuable lessons about her rights for safety, care and protection. Maria has since transitioned into rental accommodation with her sister, close to family.



Therapeutic Services: Victoria

Therapeutic Foster Care - Wodonga

The Circle and Equip Program is a therapeutic Foster Care program, which aims to maximise the capacity of foster carers to provide children with relationships, environments and opportunities that will assist them to heal from traumatic experiences.

In Ovens Murray, we deliver this therapeutic care program in partnership with Upper Murry Family Care (UMFC). Over the past 12 months, our Therapeutic Specialist has worked with 15 foster carers and 18 children. Working in partnership with the care team and significant people in these children's worlds is critical to creating better outcomes for children; it truly does take a village. Engaging the child in a way that enables us to understand their voice, hopes and worries is key to any intervention. Children's experience of being heard valued and understood has a profound impact on the child's trajectory.

How do we know our program works?

One young person, Lionel* had been in the program for over seven years. He exited the program at the age of 18. The stability, safety, nurturing and loving environment he experienced from his home-based carers has been extremely reparative. Lionel is a loved family member of his foster care family and feels strongly connected to them. He is successfully completing year 12, and has the potential to do whatever he wants in life. Lionel is a remarkable, smart, caring, kind person who knows no matter what happens, his foster carers will always have a chair around the table for him and will want him to return home and visit, if and when he decides to leave the family home.



Safeguarding Children Services

Australia and New Zealand

This year, Safeguarding Children Services has engaged in a renewed partnership with the YMCA to support the continuous development and growth of the internal capacity of Member YMCAs collectively to deliver a best practice approach to keeping children and young people safe from abuse and exploitation whilst in the organisation's care.

Safeguarding Children Services is leading a co-design process of an independent review and validation model of risk management and quality improvement in relation to child safety and wellbeing across the YMCA's national network of over 15,000 employees and volunteers and nearly 600 sites.

Australian Childhood Foundation is engaged to develop and provide external review services and continuous improvement support to the YMCA, against the **Y Safeguarding Children and Young People Licence Standards**.

In FY20-21, we engaged The Centre for Social Impact at The University of Western Australia (CSI UWA) to carry out a social impact evaluation of Safeguarding Children Services. The evaluation will develop the social impact story of Safeguarding Children Services over the past decade and develop an outcomes framework to support Safeguarding to continue to demonstrate better outcomes for children and young people in relation to their safety and wellbeing when participating in organisations.

The launch of the Safeguarding virtual classroom series offered a calendar of online learning opportunities in contemporary practice of child safety. Important topics such as child safe culture and leadership, the voice of children and young people, harmful sexual behaviour by children, and trauma and neuroscience, were all on offer, supporting individuals and organisations to deepen their knowledge and confidence in building child safe organisations.

Our Safeguarding Children Team continues to work with over 80 existing organisations, supporting eight of these to achieve Safeguarding Children Accreditation, and a further 35 working towards this achievement throughout the year. Those organisations that achieved Accreditation include, Chabad Youth, Kennerley Children's Home, Chabad Malvern, Rockhampton Grammar School, Anglicare Tasmania, YMCA North, CatholicCare NT and Oak Possability.

We are pleased to commence working with several new organisations in support of strengthening their capacity to keep children and young people safe from abuse whilst in their care. This year, we welcomed Domestic Violence Service Management, Anglicare Australia Network, Little Dreamers, Launceston City Mission, Aquatics Achievers, City of Boroondara, Our Patch Education, Hume City Council, Jabiru Community Youth and Children Services, MiCare and Yarra Junior Football League.

Our Safeguarding Children online training has reached its 100,000 users this year. We are pleased to have provided the training to over 125 organisations this year.





Professional Education Services

In 2020-2021, the Professional Education Services team has delivered training internationally and across every state and territory in Australia, including remote and rural areas.

The Professional Education Services team delivered high quality training, professional development, reflective practice, workforce development opportunities, action research projects to deliver knowledge and learning for the development of trauma-informed practice and organisational frameworks. The team delivered five Nationally Accredited qualifications as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), in addition to an annual calendar of training delivered, individual customised training that has been developed through a range of partnerships in early childhood, education, youth justice, child protection, out-of-home care, family violence and an ever-increasing group of organisations to support children and ensure their developmental outcomes are fully supported and met.

Professional Education Services Team Internationally

Much to our delight, the **American International School of Bucharest** (AISOB) approached Australian Childhood Foundation in May 2020, seeking guidance to support their students with possible trauma and more broadly supporting students during the disruptions and stressors of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Counsellors and Safeguarding Coordinator of AISOB were advocating for the implementation of a trauma-informed and compassionate approach school wide.

In May 2021, **‘Making Space for Learning – Trauma Responsive Practice in Education’** was delivered to 30 staff in leadership roles at the school. With the success of this, Australian Childhood Foundation delivered a one-hour introduction to Making SPACE for Learning webinar in August 2021 for approximately 170 wider school staff. Both sessions proved very positive experiences, generating lively discussion, interest, and impetus in developing AISOB’s trauma-informed approach. Planning is now underway for the next phase in our partnership, supporting the implementation of a whole school trauma-informed approach.



“While we are still new to introducing this approach to our community and it will take some time to build capacity, Australian Childhood Foundation really helped us to reach our initial goal by helping us to build buy-in with our administration. We now have a team of people who are committed to furthering this work in our community.”
- A member of the leadership team, AISOB

Professional Education Services

Our work across Australia has continued to grow with key partnerships in every state:

South Australia:

Delivering across the state with the South Australia Department of Education ongoing SMART-ER program (Strategies for Managing Abuse Related Trauma = Educational Reform) as an extension of the SMART program, and its application in South Australian schools through action-based research. The team has delivered professional development with revised packages and a new revised and strengthened strategy booklet.

Professional development with Making Space for Learning (MSFL) training in schools in the Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) directorate has fortunately been able to have some face-to-face delivery this year. In addition, school visits are undertaken with a reflective practice approach facilitated jointly by Australian Childhood Foundation team and CESA representatives. The purpose of these visits is to help schools design, set goals, implement, reflect and review their approaches to trauma-responsive practice in their school community based on the MSFL framework.

Tasmania

Working with the Department of Education in Tasmania, the team has delivered training into their network of schools who are implementing trauma-informed practice on a regular basis. These sessions have included a range of topics, including dyadic relationship and PACE in schools and engaging parents who have experienced trauma.

Northern Territory

Through the Registered Training Organisation (RTO), Australian Childhood Foundation developed and continues to deliver the Graduate Certificate in Developmental Trauma in Darwin and Alice Springs for staff in health, welfare, and education to undertake post graduate qualifications specialising in the impacts of trauma on children and young people and building strategies for working with them in effective and therapeutic ways.

In addition, we deliver the Certificate IV in Youth Justice and a range of professional development training for Territory Families into their child protection and youth justice spaces. A key aim of this training is capacity building to enable a trauma-informed workforce in youth justice in the Northern Territory. This work has informed and built Rebecca Cort's expertise in this space and she has presented at several Youth Justice conferences.

Australian Childhood Foundation also provides scholarships for Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory to undertake this qualification, thus building the capacity of Aboriginal staff in NT organisations to apply trauma-informed approaches in their work.

Victoria

The Professional Education Services team, in partnership with the Rural City of Benalla established a training program to build a trauma-informed framework across their Family and Children Services and included external providers including early childhood who service the community.

In addition, the team delivered a range of customised trainings to:

- Anglicare Leadership Group: Neuroscience of Leadership
- Community of Children in Frankston and Bendigo and
- Making Space for Learning across primary and secondary schools
- Forest St Primary School in Ballarat committed to online training across a three-month period and used trauma-informed practice training as professional development tool.

Australian Capital Territory

Trauma-Informed Training for the Australian Capital Territory's Early Childhood Education and Care Sector was successfully delivered this year, providing the Education Directorate a four staged project to build a sustained and consistent approach to trauma-informed practice in early childhood that enables an integrated approach for children who have experienced disadvantage, abuse, violence, or neglect from the time they enter the education system. It includes online modules, access to a range of recorded training webinars and the development of professional practice through a series of reflective practice lead by the Professional Education Services team members. In addition, the sector will have access to an ongoing blog across the sector and the establishment of professional networks.

Professional Education Services

Queensland

The Professional Education Services team has continued to deliver training in Queensland and has procured a contract with QLD DVAC to deliver online, face-to-face and reflective practice in the Ipswich area. The team has also continued their amazing work with Aboriginal schools in Queensland.

New South Wales

The team have been successful in developing a trauma-informed practice program to be delivered across NSW into the early childhood workforce through the Department of Education. This is an exciting program with online learning, webinars, practice manual and virtual practice reflection.

Western Australia

The team delivered a customised Graduate Certification in Developmental Trauma (GCDT) for staff in Marninnwarntikura in Fitzroy Crossing and provided a range of additional learning supports to ensure these incredible students gained their qualifications. The team was also the successful applicants in gaining the contract to deliver WA's provision of a pilot study on social competence and emotional regulation program.



Feedback:

Trauma Responsive Practice in Education - Online Training

"The training was above my expectations, which are high, and I really enjoyed it and learned a lot. Thank you for making this so course affordable and great."



GCDT 2020

"This is an excellent course which I highly recommend. The lecturers are brilliant in their subject knowledge and are all beautiful and safe people. I am loving the course and am so glad I enrolled. Thank you!"

"I am really enjoying the course and the discussion and find the facilitators so great at delivering the content."



96%

of students in our customised training said they would recommend this training to their colleagues.

60%

of these participants said they would like follow-up training in the same subject.

80%

of participants said the training fully met their expectations.

20%

said it partially met their expectations.

Program Spotlight: Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care

In 2018, we established Australia's first ever intermediary organisation dedicated to therapeutic forms of care for children and young people. The Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care is run by the Australian Childhood Foundation in partnership with Southern Cross University. The Centre integrates up to date research evidence with cultural knowledge, practice wisdom and the voices of young people in care to produce reports, practice resources and training to support the provision of high quality, evidence-informed therapeutic care. Since then, it has also begun to work in other jurisdictions including ACT, NT and Tasmania.

Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation: Online, self-paced learning

Launching in early 2021, Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation is an online self-paced training for caseworkers, residential workers, house supervisors and managers, therapeutic specialists and organisational leaders working in out-of-home care and therapeutic care.

The Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care was commissioned by the New South Wales Department of Communities and Justice to develop this training in

response to recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (2017) to inform prevention and response to child sexual exploitation.

Strategies to identify and disrupt opportunities for the sexual exploitation of children, including children in out-of-home care, depend on central coordination and multi-disciplinary approaches. This training and resource kit aims to equip workers with knowledge and strategies to support vulnerable young people at risk of exploitation.

- 618 registered learners in the training
- 6000 page views of the course page
- 433 downloads of the Safe Connections Resource Kit
- 50 hard copies of the Safe Connections Resource Kit distributed to Therapeutic Specialists across 11 Intensive Therapeutic Care agencies
- 83% of learners said they felt “extremely” or “very” confident to support young people at risk of, or currently experiencing, sexual exploitation after completing the training
- 91% of learners said that after the training they were “extremely aware” or “very aware” of the risks and impacts of sexual exploitation for children and young people in out-of-home care.



Feedback:

“I have a greater awareness of what child sexual exploitation is all about and to look out for warning signs and young people possibly at risk. Thank you for making this professional development a free online one. I would not have learnt this valuable information otherwise.”

“[I have] renewed awareness of the risks our children are facing and the importance of reaching out to them despite the challenges.”

“[I am taking away the importance of] building relationships. Also being non-judgemental & understanding the myths around child sexual exploitation so that we know not to limit our response or limit looking out for certain kids that we think might be vulnerable.”

The CETC will deliver the Certificate IV in Child, Youth and Family Intervention to residential care workers as a foundational qualification for work in residential care. It is being developed into an online self-paced qualification and will be launched online early in 2022.

Parenting and Early Years

In response to the pandemic, we have run online training, parent groups and conference presentations. Our largest online training course offered was to support professionals working in the Bringing Up Great Kids program who needed to quickly move their face-to-face work to the online platform. As Bringing Up Great Kids is an experiential program, we created videos of some of the activities that facilitators could use in their online groups to support the expression of the work.

Our team across Australia helped in creating these experiential videos including the Sydney and Darwin teams who helped explain brain development and brain growth.

This year, we launched a new variation of Bringing Up Great Kids: Parenting Adolescents. The Bringing Up Great Kids community have been asking for this variation for some time and we recently finished our first training sessions with grateful, positive feedback from participants. The course will continue into the future with further Bringing Up Great Kids: Parenting Adolescents dates available.

In our third year working with the Department of Education (Early Years), we have provided support to all early childhood educators across Victoria in understanding relational trauma and supporting our youngest children and their families through a more trauma-informed lens. The impact of our work has been evident in the identification of a shift from 'behaviour management' to understanding the effect of trauma on children's brain development and behaviour and the educators' important role in the healing process.

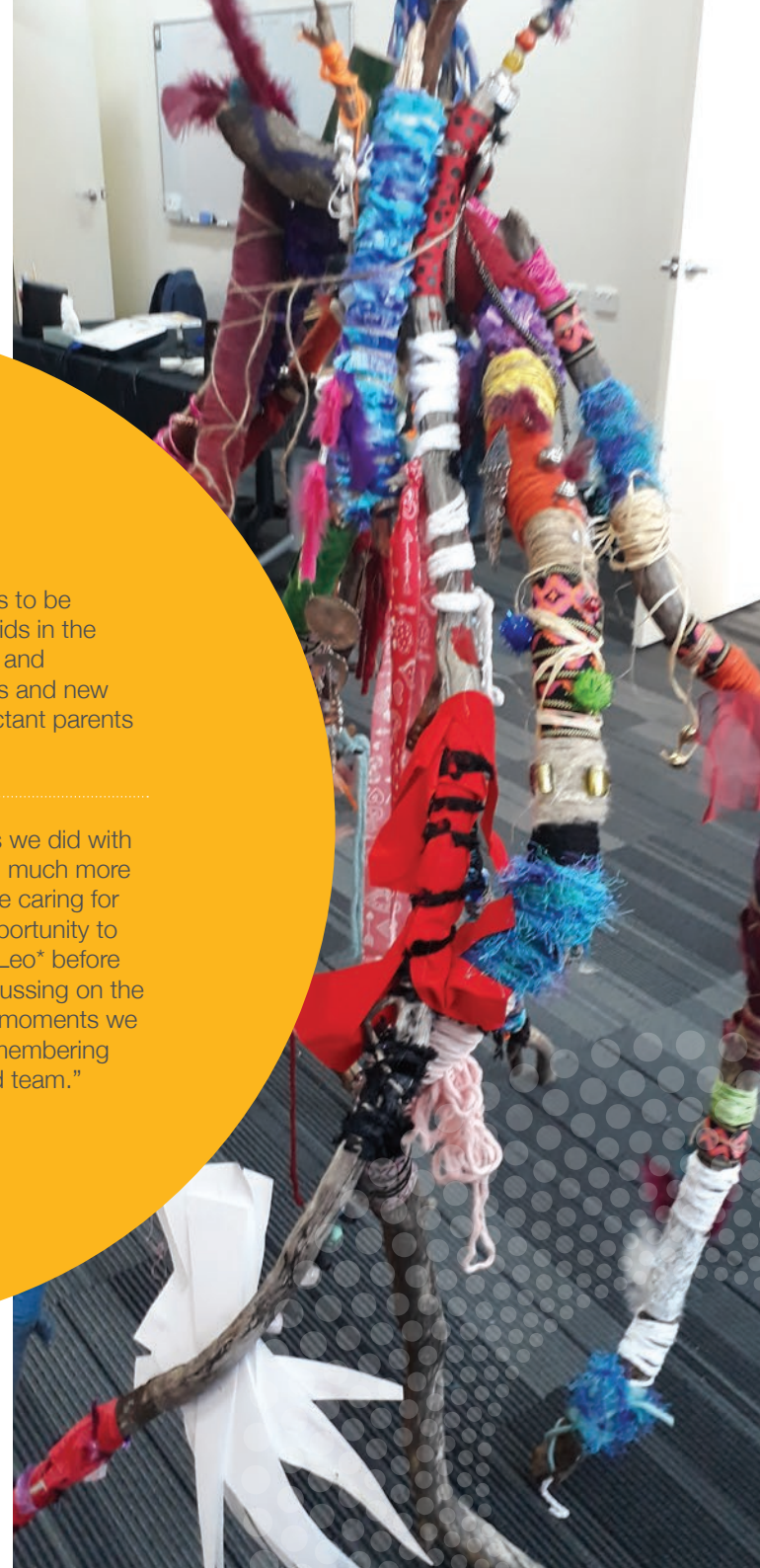
“

Feedback:

The Parenting and Early Years team continues to be excited by the interest in Bringing Up Great Kids in the First 1000 Days, in both the training sessions and facilitating online groups for expectant parents and new parents. It has been lovely to hear from expectant parents after their baby has been born.

“I want to say thanks so much for the classes we did with you. I think it has made Jonathan* and me so much more connected with each other. It's a big challenge caring for our little man, and I'm so glad we had the opportunity to learn the skills we did; really connecting with Leo* before he was born, practicing gratefulness, and focussing on the positives, remembering the beautiful, special moments we had, at the end of an exhausting day, and remembering that we're on each other's side. We're a good team.”

”



Partnerships, Fundraising & Marketing



Partnerships

Corporate Partnership Highlight

Highpoint Shopping Centre x YiaYia Next Door Acts of Kindness

Thanks to our ongoing partnership with The GPT Group, together we were able to leverage their shopping centre assets to deliver meaningful campaigns directly into the community.

Last festive season, we reached over the fence to our ambassadors Daniel and Luke from YiaYia Next Door and Highpoint to launch Christmas Acts of Kindness.

Acts of Kindness was a unique fundraising experience for their shopping community to participate in and support children receiving counselling.

With the help of our ambassadors, Luke and Daniel from YiaYia Next Door we were able to raise funds for counselling resources for children to help them overcome their trauma.

The GPT Group are deeply committed to ensuring that children who have experienced trauma have access to the services they need to begin to heal.



Partnerships, Fundraising & Marketing

Our heartfelt thanks

Australian Childhood Foundation is deeply appreciative of the following partners for their support of our work throughout 2020-2021. Together, we are building a community willing to take a stand to protect and defend childhood.

Thank you to our corporate partners in FY20-21:



And to the following businesses and organisations who also generously contributed their support to Australian Childhood Foundation in FY20-21:

- BGC Group
- Honda Australia
- Dyson
- Vuly Trampolines

Partnerships, Fundraising & Marketing

Fundraising and Marketing

Christmas Appeal

In 2020, we held our most successful Christmas Appeal to date, raising a total of \$76,669 in support of our therapeutic programs here at Australian Childhood Foundation.

\$76,669

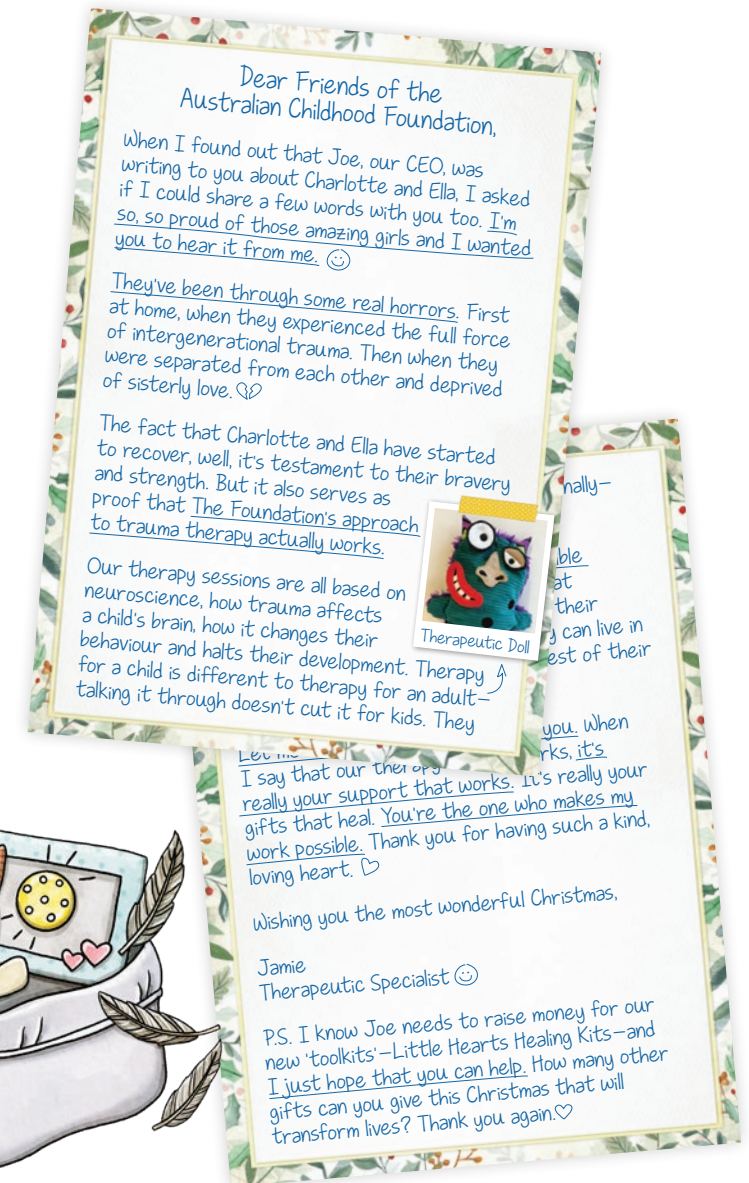
from supporter donations

In support of the work of the Foundation, this year's appeal told the story of Charlotte* and Ella*, two sisters, living in separate foster care homes after no longer being able to live with their parents due to concerns of significant abuse and neglect.

This year's appeal saw the Foundation's first use of social media advertising as a means to generate income, reaching both new and existing supporters. In total, we reached 103 new donors through our acquisition strategies, utilising digital platforms.

We also saw substantial donations come in from a small cohort of very generous supporters, nine of whom donated over \$1000 each, culminating to 25% of the total amount raised.

The impact of the campaign has enabled us to continue our specialist therapeutic work with children just like Charlotte and Ella who have experienced significant trauma in their young lives, by delivering Little Hearts Healing Kits to children who receive counselling with the Foundation, across Australia.



Partnerships, Fundraising & Marketing



A Lasting Legacy: Our COVID-19 Research Report

When the pandemic came to our shores in early 2020, Australian Childhood Foundation produced a number of resources and tools for parents, carers, and professionals to support children and young people whose lives had been displaced. Remote learning became a reality for many children in our larger cities, who were also separated from their extended families, friends, and other support networks.

Conducted before Victorians entered the tough stage four restrictions in mid-2020, the national report demonstrated that one in four parents felt they were already failing their children and more than a third stated they had lost confidence in their parenting abilities. Unfortunately, a year on and as we compile this report, several cities and many regional towns across Australia are facing further restrictions, 'lockdowns', and lives that have been significantly impacted.



Dr Joe Tucci, CEO of Australian Childhood Foundation, and lead author of the report said the *Lasting Legacy* research highlighted the need for a renewed focus on addressing parental wellbeing and supporting families as they navigate their way through the pandemic.

To support this work, Australian Childhood Foundation Ambassador Nadine Garner lent her voice to support children and young people across Australia during what has been an unprecedented and challenging year.

In an interview with Studio 10, Nadine talked to her experiences living with her own children in Melbourne during the restrictions in mid-2020. Nadine explained the need to recognise the impacts for families in need of support, talking to the impact of the unseen and unspoken stress homeschooling created for many families. She raised the issue of anxiety in children during lockdown and the parental stress in these situations, and noted that parents need support as well as children, to ensure that children and young people were able to receive what they need from parents. Nadine also explained that it truly takes a village to raise a child, and that it is not possible for one parent alone to provide everything a child needs, all the time.

The full report can be viewed on our website.

Partnerships, Fundraising & Marketing

Ambassador Highlight

We celebrated Father's Day in 2020 with Australian Childhood Foundation Ambassador Matty Johnson.

Australia's beloved Bachelor, Matty Johnson is lucky to have found love and a successful media career, but above anything else he is a devoted father. With strong bonds to his family, Matty chose to champion the cause of children who are not lucky enough to have the fantastic familial support network he grew up with, and hopes to provide his daughter with too.

Matty said: "The older I get, the more I appreciate the impact my happy and healthy childhood has had on my life so far. Every child deserves that. Every child deserves to feel safe, loved and have adults in their lives they can trust. Australian Childhood Foundation has been at the forefront of defending children in Australia for years and it is a privilege to do what I can to further their cause."

A gift that keeps giving

For Father's Day 2020, donors gave to help kids be kids again. We raised funds towards helping to provide tools and resources for children to support their therapeutic experience, including providing paint and drawing materials, musical instruments and toys for role-playing and storytelling. All these practical tools for therapeutic counselling sessions help children to express the impact of the trauma they carry as a result of abuse.

Children need to be held in committed and caring relationships to grow, thrive and have opportunity and hope. We at the Foundation work to create these opportunities for hope, and growth. It is why we are so appreciative of the support of a passionate and loving team of Patrons and Ambassadors whose commitment to supporting children and young people is steadfast and enduring.

Creative writing and art showcase

Beginning October 24th 2020, we celebrated Children's Week at the Australian Childhood Foundation with a showcase of children and young peoples' artwork and creative writing. Seeking submissions from across the community, the theme of the showcase was friendship. The aim of the activity was to engage the community and draw attention to the importance of strong relationships for children and young people.

Children and young people under the age of 18 were invited to take part in the celebration by submitting a piece of visual artwork or writing, related to the theme of friendship.

In showcasing these artworks, we aimed to share the voices of children across Australia during a time when we cannot be together to celebrate in person.

We know that healthy friendships help children to feel safe. The theme for our Art and Creative Writing Showcase in 2020 was drawn from the Children's Week theme; Article 15 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children have the right to meet with other children and young people and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

At Australian Childhood Foundation, we are driven to create a world where children feel safe and supported to participate, learn, explore, and create. This activity enabled children within our community to get involved to support children whose voices and childhoods have been affected by violence, abuse, and neglect.





Our People

Ambassadors

Our Patrons

Chris Hemsworth, AM
Actor

Rosie Batty, AO
Domestic Violence
Advocate & Australian of
the Year (2015)

Our Ambassadors

Liam Hemsworth
Actor

Nadine Garner
Actor

Stefan Dennis
Actor

Matt Johnson
Radio & Television
Personality

Daniel and Luke Mancuso
YiaYia Next Door

Casey Burgess
Entertainer

Robyn Moore
Actor and Public Speaker

Clint Newton
Rugby League Players'
Association President

John Xintavelonis
Actor & Entertainer

Our Board

President

Mr Mark Thomas
Communications

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Rod Naismith
Accounting

Directors

Mr Justin Smith
Media

Mr Nick Pelham
Infrastructure

Dr Ciara Earley
Paediatrics

Mr Rod Lamplugh
Law

Mr Cliff Weeks
Aboriginal Affairs

Ms Claire Boussioutas
Consultancy

Our Life Governors

Mr Jamie Perrott
Communications

Ms Susan Halliday
Business

Mr David Rosback, AM
Retail and former Rotary
District Governor

Mr Laurie Wilson
Commerce

Dr Anne Small
Medicine

Mr Ted Garland
Accounting

Thank you to the wonderful people who were involved with us this year

Our Senior Management Team

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO

Janise Mitchell
Deputy CEO

Trevor Irwin
Chief Financial Officer

Craig McMillan
Executive Manager,
Partnerships, Fundraising
and Marketing

Lyn Millett
Executive Manager,
Professional Education
Services and Safeguarding
Children Services

Noel Macnamara
Executive Manager,
Research and Policy

Jenny Wing
General Manager,
Therapeutic Services

Rhiannon Wright
General Manager,
Safeguarding Children
Services

Angela Weller
Manager, Therapeutic
Services

Cyra Fernandes
Manager, Therapeutic
Services

Marina Dickson
Organisational Lead Course
and Content Development

Mary Ann Delaney
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (VIC)

Monica Robertson
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (VIC)

Nicole Balfour
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (VIC)

Kathryn Lenton
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (TAS)

Tim Henry
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (TAS)

Jana Sarnovski
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (ACT)

Joanne Wicks
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (NT)

Blythe McAuley
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (NT)

Glenys Bristow
Manager, MC1D (NT)

Sue Buratti
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (NSW)

Shaun Chandran
Manager, Therapeutic
Services (WA)

Glenda Kickett
Manager, Aboriginal
and Torres Straight
Islander Engagement
and Partnership

Pauline Lodge
Manager, Professional
Education Services

Timothy Sillcock
Manager, Professional
Education Services (RTO)

Donna Richards
RTO Coordination and
Business Development
Manager

Lauren Thomas
Manager, Service
Development and Projects

Lydia Kali, Manager
Quality Unit

Pat Jewell
Manager, Parenting and Early
Years Services

Cynan Kim-Blackmore
Manager, Safeguarding
Children Services

Felicity O'Meara
Manager, Corporate
Partnerships

Catherine Robertson
Manager, Fundraising

Edward Murphy
Manager, Marketing and
Fundraising

Georgia Pattison
Manager, People
and Culture

Renee Smart
Manager, Internal Systems
Support

Milon Islam
Manager, Financial Services

Narelle Lowe
Manager, Financial Services

Liliana Inguanti
Manager, Support Services

Our Key Supporters & Committee Members

Andrew Newbold
Julie Reilly

Judi Lay
Marilyn Kraner

Adam Tomison
Chris Goddard
Kelly Black

Our Safeguarding Children Accreditation Panel

Susan Halliday
Former Chair of the Victorian
Institute of Teachers

Superintendent Andrew Allen
Victoria Police (Retired)

Merrillee Barnes
Australian Sports Commission

Get Involved Today

The Australian Childhood Foundation relies on the support of the community to continue to provide counselling services for children to help them heal from the devastating impact of violence and abuse.

You can help transform the lives of children, and assist the Foundation in running prevention programs that help stop violence and abuse before it happens, by making a donation at

www.childhood.org.au

Contact us today to talk about how you can support vulnerable children

Australian Childhood Foundation

PO Box 3335

Richmond VIC 3121

Phone: 1300 381 581

Email: support@childhood.org.au

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible



Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report

30 June 2021

The directors present their report on Australian Childhood Foundation for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

General information

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

| Names | Position |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mark Thomas | Corporate Affairs Consultant |
| Justin Smith | Media |
| Nick Pelham | Infrastructure Manager |
| David J Stephenson | Marketing (Resigned on 27/10/2020) |
| Ciara Earley | General Paediatric Consultant |
| Rod Lamplugh | Solicitor |
| Claire Boussioutas | Consultant |
| Rod Naismith | Accountant |
| Cliff Weeks | Public Servant |

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Information on directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mark Thomas | is currently the Chairperson of the Foundation having joined as a Director in 2005. He has been a political adviser to a range of government Ministers. He has senior community and corporate communications experience. |
| Justin Smith | is a senior producer and broadcaster with Fairfax Media. He brings significant media and communications experience to the Board. He joined as a Director in 2011. |
| Nick Pelham | joined as a Director in 2011. He has worked in infrastructure management for government and corporate sectors. He is a member of the Finance and Governance subcommittee of the Board. |
| David J Stephenson | joined as a Director in 2013. David currently runs his own marketing consultancy business. David was Managing Director of Aegis Media ANZ's Digital Creative division from January 2011 until June 2016. He has spent 25 years working in the Advertising and Digital world, with stints at some of Australia's most respected and biggest Advertising Agencies including Clemenger, Grey and Singleton. David resigned as a Director on 27 October 2020. |
| Ciara Earley | joined as Director in 2014. She is a qualified Paediatrician and works as a Consultant at Monash Medical Centre. Ciara holds Masters in Forensic Medicine from Monash University and The Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. |
| Rod Lamplugh | joined as a Director in 2015. He is a commercial lawyer and company director. He has over 25 years' experience assisting organisations with legal and media related matters particularly in the areas of acquisitions, contractual matters and compliance issues. |
| Claire Boussioutas | joined as a Director in 2018. Claire has been working with global and Australian organisations over 25 years as they undergo business transformation enabled by technology. She is a Partner at EY and married with three children |

Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report

30 June 2021

General information (continued)

Information on directors (continued)

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rod Naismith | joined as a Director in 2018. Rod is a Chartered Accountant and a Graduate of the Institute of Australian Company Directors. Rod has worked in public practice for over 17 years and is a Partner at the global firm, BDO. He advises on a range of business, accounting and taxation issues for start-up, private and family owned businesses and not for profit organisations. He is a member of the Finance and Governance subcommittee of the Board. |
| Cliff Weeks | joined as a Director in 2016. He is currently working for the Department of the Chief Minister as a senior executive based in Alice Springs. A former member of the Western Australia Police Service, Cliff has over 15 years of experience in the public sector and was Director General of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in Western Australia from 2011 until 2016. |

Principal activities

The principal activities of Australian Childhood Foundation during the financial year was to provide services which effectively reduced the incidence of child abuse and the harm it causes children, families and the community. It provided direct services to children who have suffered or were at risk of abuse and neglect and their families in the form of counselling, practical assistance, emotional support or material aid. It also conducted research, prevention and education programs aimed to raise public awareness about the problem of child abuse and family violence.

Objectives and Strategy

The Australian Childhood Foundation's objectives are to:

- prevent child abuse in Australia;
- support children to recover from the trauma arising from experiences of abuse and neglect; and
- build the confidence and capacity of parents.

The Foundation's strategy for achieving these objectives includes:

- establishment of specialist therapeutic programs throughout Australia;
- provision of parenting education activities;
- undertaking research into child abuse and child protection;
- delivery of training to health, welfare, education and legal professionals;
- implementation of programs that build the capacity of organisations to protect children from harm and exploitation by volunteers and employees.

Performance Measure

The Foundation measures its performance through the number of children and families supported by its specialist programs, the amount of income funds raised and the number of projects delivered to the community.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report 30 June 2021

General information (continued)

Members' guarantee

Australian Childhood Foundation is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each member and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to \$ 100 for members, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

At 30 June 2021 the collective liability of members was \$ 2,300 (2020: \$ 2,200).

Operating results

The operating surplus of the company amounted to \$2,367,744 (2020: \$804,254). No provision for income tax is necessary, as the company is endorsed as an income tax exempt charitable entity under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the year.

Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Meetings of directors

During the financial year, 7 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

| | Directors' Meetings | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | Number eligible to attend | Number attended |
| Mark Thomas | 7 | 7 |
| Justin Smith | 7 | 3 |
| Nick Pelham | 7 | 7 |
| David J Stephenson | 3 | 3 |
| Ciara Earley | 7 | 7 |
| Rod Lamplugh | 7 | 6 |
| Claire Boussioutas | 7 | 7 |
| Rod Naismith | 7 | 5 |
| Cliff Weeks | 7 | 6 |

Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of Australian Childhood Foundation.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Directors' Report 30 June 2021

Proceedings on behalf of company

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervened in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purposes of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings.

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* for the year ended 30 June 2021 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the financial report.

ASIC corporations instrument 2016/191 rounding of amounts

The Company is an entity to which ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Report) Instrument 2016/191 applies and, accordingly, amounts in the financial statements and directors' report have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director: *A. Mark Thomas*
Mark Thomas

Dated this 10 day of October 2021

Summary Financial Statements



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Registered Audit Company 291969
Level 12 31 Queen Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
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F: +61 3 8613 8800
nexia.com.au

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Australian Childhood Foundation

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead auditor of Australian Childhood Foundation for the year ended 30 June 2021, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Dated this 10th day of October 2021

Geoff S. Parker
Director

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 96 005 167 973) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see www.nexia.com.au/eng. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

| | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Fundraising and Donations | 3,249,106 | 3,131,367 |
| Government assistance | 1,524,500 | 1,301,000 |
| Interest income | 17,854 | 21,649 |
| Other Income | 167,584 | 178,360 |
| Professional education services | 2,334,261 | 1,377,884 |
| Research | 230,014 | 100,000 |
| Safeguarding children services | 1,038,300 | 1,138,397 |
| Therapeutic Services | 18,263,703 | 16,588,546 |
| | 26,825,322 | 23,837,203 |
| Expenditure | | |
| Amortisation of right-of-use assets | (1,415,448) | (1,357,709) |
| Depreciation | (521,506) | (542,445) |
| Employee benefits expense | (17,652,154) | (15,313,230) |
| Finance costs | (20,568) | (24,870) |
| Foreign exchange gain/(loss) | 1,289 | (6,124) |
| IT expenses | (523,016) | (552,996) |
| Lease interest | (133,822) | (30,988) |
| Motor vehicle expenses | (235,732) | (282,990) |
| Offices and Facilities | (279,775) | (785,166) |
| Organisational expenses | (918,211) | (791,959) |
| Program expenses | (1,958,035) | (2,235,914) |
| Telecommunications | (223,799) | (213,771) |
| Travel expenses | (536,142) | (894,787) |
| Loss on disposal of assets | (40,659) | - |
| | (24,457,578) | (23,032,949) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax | 2,367,744 | 804,254 |
| Income tax expense | - | - |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the year | 2,367,744 | 804,254 |
| Other comprehensive income | | |
| Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss | | |
| Revaluation changes for property, plant and equipment | 192,224 | - |
| Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss | | |
| Gain/(Loss) arising from revaluation of financial assets at fair value | 18,955 | (10,030) |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 2,578,923 | 794,224 |

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Statement of Financial Position As At 30 June 2021

| Note | 2021 \$ | 2020 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 2,509,327 | 1,924,254 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5 1,217,753 | 964,184 |
| Inventories | 6 234,977 | 59,797 |
| Financial assets | 7 2,079,807 | 57,227 |
| Other assets | 8 546,026 | 529,856 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 6,587,890 | 3,535,318 |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 9 3,758,944 | 3,537,994 |
| Right-of-use assets | 10 2,190,625 | 2,588,671 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | 5,949,569 | 6,126,665 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 12,537,459 | 9,661,983 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Trade and other payables | 11 1,312,774 | 1,001,312 |
| Borrowings | 12 - | 59,112 |
| Employee benefits | 14 1,466,194 | 1,162,370 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 1,471,443 | 1,310,192 |
| Other liabilities | 13 1,392,448 | 921,900 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 5,642,859 | 4,454,886 |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Borrowings | 12 - | 200,887 |
| Employee benefits | 14 160,712 | 177,774 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 969,695 | 1,643,166 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | 1,130,407 | 2,021,827 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 6,773,266 | 6,476,713 |
| NET ASSETS | 5,764,193 | 3,185,270 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Reserves | 15 2,138,089 | 1,926,910 |
| Retained earnings | 3,626,104 | 1,258,360 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | 5,764,193 | 3,185,270 |

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

| 2021 | Retained Earnings \$ | Asset Revaluation Surplus \$ | Financial Asset Reserve \$ | Total \$ |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2020 | 1,258,359 | 1,926,091 | 820 | 3,185,270 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the year | 2,367,744 | - | - | 2,367,744 |
| Other comprehensive surplus/(deficit) for the year | - | 192,224 | 18,955 | 211,179 |
| Balance at 30 June 2021 | 3,626,103 | 2,118,315 | 19,775 | 5,764,193 |
| 2020 | | | | |
| Balance at 1 July 2019 | 818,791 | 1,926,091 | 10,850 | 2,755,732 |
| Restatement due to adoption of AASB 16 | (222,993) | - | - | (222,993) |
| Balance at 1 July 2019 restated | 595,798 | 1,926,091 | 10,850 | 2,532,739 |
| Lease non-cash adjustment | (141,693) | - | - | (141,693) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the year | 804,254 | - | - | 804,254 |
| Other comprehensive surplus/(deficit) for the year | - | - | (10,030) | (10,030) |
| Balance at 30 June 2020 | 1,258,359 | 1,926,091 | 820 | 3,185,270 |

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Note | \$ | \$ |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Receipts from customers | 27,024,124 | 21,622,882 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | (21,918,701) | (21,420,882) |
| Dividends received | 323 | - |
| Interest received | 17,854 | 21,649 |
| Finance costs | (154,390) | (24,870) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 4,969,210 | 198,779 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Payment for property, plant and equipment | (590,891) | (582,020) |
| Proceeds from disposal of property, plant & equipment | - | 49,170 |
| Purchase of financial assets | (2,003,625) | - |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities | (2,594,516) | (532,850) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Repayment of borrowings | (259,999) | (39,285) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities (principal) | (1,529,622) | (1,388,696) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities | (1,789,621) | (1,427,981) |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held | 585,073 | (1,762,052) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | 1,924,254 | 3,686,306 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year | 4 2,509,327 | 1,924,254 |

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The financial report covers Australian Childhood Foundation as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Australian Childhood Foundation is a company limited by guarantee.

The functional and presentation currency of Australian Childhood Foundation is Australian dollars.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Directors on 28 October 2021.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and other income

Revenue recognised under AASB 15 is measured at the amount which the Company expects to receive in consideration for satisfying performance obligations to a customer. A performance obligation is the distinct good or service defined within the contract with a customer. The transaction price is allocated to one or more performance obligations contained within the contract, with revenue being recognised as or when the performance obligation is satisfied.

Where consideration comprises variable components, the amount recognised as revenue is constrained to that amount that would not result in a significant reversal of the cumulative revenue recognised when that uncertainty is resolved.

Timing of Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised either at a point in time or over time, when (or as) the Company satisfies performance obligations by transferring the promised goods or services to its customers.

If the Company satisfies a performance obligation before it receives the consideration, the Company recognises either a contract asset or a receivable in its statement of financial position, depending on whether something other than the passage of time is required before the consideration is due.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(a) Revenue and other income (continued)

Specific revenue streams

The revenue recognition policies for the principal revenue streams of the Company are:

Fundraising and donations

Donations collected including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the Company gains control of the asset.

Grant revenue

Grant revenue is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Education programs

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers i.e. when the performance obligation has been satisfied.

Government assistance

Government assistance has been received during the year under the Cash Flow Boost program and Jobkeeper payments. Payments under this program are recognised as revenue once the Company is entitled to receive the payments. A receivable is recognised at year end for any payments that the Company is entitled to that have not been received. Payments received are included as part of 'Government assistance' in the statement of comprehensive income.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(a) Revenue and other income (continued)

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

(b) Income Tax

The Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(d) Inventories

Inventories acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration are valued at the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition, which is the deemed cost.

(e) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Property

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation of buildings. This is reviewed every three years. Last revaluation date was 25 May 2021 by Charter Keck Cramer.

Fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence, which is the amount for which the assets could be exchanged between a knowledgeable willing buyer and a knowledgeable willing seller in an arm's length transaction as at the valuation date. Fair values are confirmed by Independent valuations which are obtained with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amounts do not differ materially from the asset's fair values at the balance sheet date.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Property, plant and equipment (continued)

In periods when the freehold land and buildings are not subject to an Independent valuation, the directors conduct directors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the land and buildings is not materially different to the fair value.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation reserve in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are charged to the statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income except where a credit balance exists in the revaluation reserve, in which case it is debited to that reserve.

As the revalued buildings are depreciated the difference between depreciation recognised in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, which is based on the revalued carrying amount of the asset, and the depreciation based on the asset's original cost is transferred from the revaluation surplus to retained earnings.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets in excess of \$1,000 including buildings and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

| Fixed asset class | Depreciation rate |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Buildings | 2 - 4% |
| Office Furniture and Equipment | 10 - 25% |
| Computer Software | 20% |
| Leasehold improvements | 20 - 33% |

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, the Company classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instrument (FVOCI - equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Company changes its business model for managing financial assets.

Amortised cost

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment. Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Fair value through other comprehensive income

Equity instruments

The Company has a number of strategic investments in listed and unlisted entities over which they do not have significant influence nor control. The Company has made an irrevocable election to classify these equity investments as fair value through other comprehensive income as they are not held for trading purposes.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets (continued)

These investments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (financial asset reserve). On disposal any balance in the financial asset reserve is transferred to retained earnings and is not reclassified to profit or loss.

Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI.

Impairment of financial assets

Impairment of financial assets is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis for the following assets:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost
- debt investments measured at FVOCI

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial assets has increased significant since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the Company considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Company's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

The Company uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Company uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Company in full, without recourse to the Company to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
- the financial assets is more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the Company in accordance with the contract and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Company has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets (continued)

Where the Company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Other financial assets measured at amortised cost

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Financial liabilities

The Company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Company comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and lease liabilities.

(g) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the Company determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where an indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(h) Intangibles

Software development

Software development costs are capitalised and recorded at cost until such time the project is complete and costs can be measured reliably. Once completed it is transferred to computer software. Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. It has an estimated useful life of five years. It is assessed annually for impairment.

(i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(j) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is considered to contain a lease if it allows the Company the right to control the use of an identified asset over a period of time in return for consideration.

Where a contract or arrangement contains a lease, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease.

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which is the present value of future lease payments adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any make-good obligations and initial direct costs incurred. Lease assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the shorter of their useful life and the lease term. Periodic adjustments are made for any re-measurements of the lease liabilities and for impairment losses.

Lease liabilities are initially measured at the present value of future minimum lease payments, discounted using the Company's incremental borrowing rate if the rate implicit in the lease cannot be readily determined, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.

Minimum lease payments include fixed payments, amounts expected to be paid under a residual value guarantee, the exercise price of purchase options for which the Company is reasonably certain to exercise and incorporate the Company's expectations of lease extension options.

The lease liability is remeasured when there are changes in future lease payments arising from a change in rates, index or lease terms from exercising an extension or termination option. A corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the lease assets.

Short term leases (lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets (\$10,000 or less) are recognised as incurred as an expense in the statement comprehensive income.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(k) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

On Costs

Employee benefit on-costs are recognised and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which relate are recognised as liabilities.

Superannuation

Contributions are made by the Company to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(l) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(m) Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded by applying the exchange rates ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Foreign currency differences arising on retranslation are recognised in profit or loss.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings are presented in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, within finance costs. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented on a net basis within other income or other expenses.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other various factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Significant accounting judgements The company has entered into leases of premises, motor vehicles and office equipment as disclosed in Note 11. Management has determined that all of the risks and rewards of ownership of these premises, motor vehicles and equipment remain with the lessor and has therefore classified the leases as operating leases.

Significant accounting estimates and assumptions The key estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period are:

Property The freehold land and building at Mitcham was independently valued on 25 May 2021 by Charter Keck Cramer. The valuation was based on the market value.

Provisions for employee benefits payable after 12 months from the reporting date are based on future wage and salary levels, attrition rate and periods of service. The amount of these provisions would change should any of these factors change in the next 12 months.

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 2,509,327 | 1,924,254 |
| | <u>2,509,327</u> | <u>1,924,254</u> |

5 Trade and other receivables

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Trade receivables | 1,152,161 | 895,820 |
| Other receivables | 65,592 | 68,364 |
| | <u>1,217,753</u> | <u>964,184</u> |

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

6 Inventories

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| At cost: | | |
| Finished goods | 234,977 | 59,797 |
| | <u>234,977</u> | <u>59,797</u> |

7 Financial Assets

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Term deposits | 2,003,625 | - |
| Shares (fair value through other comprehensive income) | 76,181 | 57,227 |
| | <u>2,079,806</u> | <u>57,227</u> |

8 Other Assets

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Prepayments | 223,803 | 222,119 |
| Security deposits | 322,223 | 307,737 |
| | <u>546,026</u> | <u>529,856</u> |

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

10 Right-of-use Assets and Lease Liabilities

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Right-of-use assets - Property | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 3,032,298 | - |
| Amount recognised on adoption of AASB 16 Leases | - | 2,918,173 |
| Additions during the year | 301,062 | 114,125 |
| | <u>3,333,360</u> | <u>3,032,298</u> |
| Right-of-use assets - Vehicle | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 914,082 | - |
| Amount recognised on adoption of AASB 16 Leases | - | 407,562 |
| Additions during the year | 498,550 | 506,520 |
| | <u>1,412,632</u> | <u>914,082</u> |
| Accumulated amortisation - Property | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | (971,311) | - |
| Amortisation for the year | (920,484) | (971,311) |
| | <u>(1,891,795)</u> | <u>(971,311)</u> |
| Accumulated amortisation - Vehicle | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | (386,398) | - |
| Amortisation for the year | (277,174) | (386,398) |
| | <u>(663,572)</u> | <u>(386,398)</u> |
| Net carrying value at year end | 2,190,625 | 2,588,671 |
| Lease liabilities | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Lease liability - Property | 1,072,127.00 | 1,033,945.00 |
| Lease liability - Vehicle | 399,316.00 | 276,246.00 |
| | <u>1,471,443.00</u> | <u>1,310,191.00</u> |
| NON-CURRENT | | |
| Lease liability - Property | 629,885.00 | 1,400,989.00 |
| Lease liability - Vehicle | 339,810.00 | 242,177.00 |
| | <u>969,695.00</u> | <u>1,643,166.00</u> |
| | <u>2,441,138.00</u> | <u>2,953,357.00</u> |
| Movement of lease liabilities during the year | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 2,953,357 | - |
| Amount recognised on adoption of AASB 16 Leases | - | 4,169,373 |
| Lease additions | 1,017,403 | - |
| Lease payments | (1,663,444) | (1,388,697) |
| Interest expense | 133,822 | 172,681 |
| | <u>2,441,138</u> | <u>2,953,357</u> |

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

11 Trade and Other Payables

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| CURRENT | | |
| Trade payables | 363,212 | 986,766 |
| GST payable | 784,928 | (7,577) |
| Other payables | 7,568 | 22,123 |
| Other payables | 157,066 | - |
| | <u>1,312,774</u> | <u>1,001,312</u> |

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

12 Borrowings

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Bank loans | - | 59,112 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>59,112</u> |
| NON-CURRENT | | |
| Bank loans | - | 200,887 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>200,887</u> |

13 Other Liabilities

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Training - income in advance | 160,741 | 171,410 |
| Other - income in advance | 1,231,707 | 750,490 |
| | <u>1,392,448</u> | <u>921,900</u> |

14 Employee Benefits

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CURRENT | | |
| Annual leave and long service leave | 1,466,194 | 1,162,370 |
| | <u>1,466,194</u> | <u>1,162,370</u> |
| NON-CURRENT | | |
| Long service leave | 160,712 | 177,774 |
| | <u>160,712</u> | <u>177,774</u> |

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

15 Reserves

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Asset revaluation reserve | 2,118,314 | 1,926,090 |
| Financial assets reserve | 19,775 | 820 |
| | <u>2,138,089</u> | <u>1,926,910</u> |

The asset revaluation reserve records the revaluation of freehold property at Mitcham.

The financial assets reserve records the revaluation of financial assets classified as fair value through other comprehensive income.

16 Members' Guarantee

In the event of the company being wound up, ordinary members are required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each. The total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up \$2,300, based on 23 current ordinary members (2020: 22 members).

The Company is incorporated under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$ 100 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 23 (2020: 22).

17 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The totals of remuneration paid to the key management personnel of Australian Childhood Foundation during the year are as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Key management personnel | 1,427,503 | 1,333,219 |
| Indemnity insurance | 6,796 | 6,313 |
| | <u>1,434,299</u> | <u>1,339,532</u> |

18 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2021 (30 June 2020: None).

19 Related Parties

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

The following transaction occurred with related parties:

Board member Rod Naismith is a Partner at BDO. In the course of the financial year, BDO provided accounting services to the value of \$142,696 (2020: \$15,000).

Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

20 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial report was authorised for issue on 28 October 2021 by the Directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

21 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the is:

Australian Childhood Foundation
Level 1
675 Victoria Street
Abbotsford Victoria 3067

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Responsible Persons' Declaration

The directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 6 to 25, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

A. Mark Thomas

Director
Mark Thomas

Dated this 10 day of October 2021

Summary Financial Statements



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Registered Audit Company 291969
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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Australian Childhood Foundation Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Childhood Foundation, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Australian Childhood Foundation, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in Australian Childhood Foundation's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information we are required to report that fact. The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this independent auditor's report.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Australian Childhood Foundation are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

A stylized signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nexia".

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

A stylized signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Geoff S. Parker".

Geoff S. Parker
Director

Dated this 10th day of October 2021



**Australian
Childhood
Foundation**

**1300 381 581
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childhood.org.au**

